Remarks/Arguments

Prior to the present amendment, claims 1-27 were pending in this application, earlier submitted claim 28 apparently not having been entered. Claims 5-10 and 12-27 were withdrawn from consideration, while claims 1-4 and 11 were rejected. As part of the present response, claims 1, 3, 8, and 11 have been amended, and claims 4-7, 9-10, and 12-27 have been canceled. The amendments include correction of an obvious typographical error, and incorporate subject matter into the pending claims from claims now canceled. Specific support for the amendment of claim 8 is found at least at page 1, lines 15-18.

Telephone interview

Applicants express their gratitude for the opportunity to discuss the outstanding rejections during a telephone interview between the Examiner and the Examiner's supervisor, Susan Ungar, Ph.D., and the undersigned attorney, on November 30, 2004. In the course of the interview the restriction requirement, the rejections communicated in the Office Action mailed on January 15, 2004, and the claim amendments were discussed.
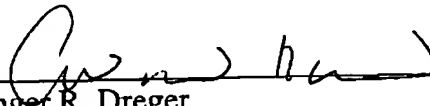
It was agreed that the finality of the Office Action mailed on January 15, 2004 would be withdrawn. Applicants offered to file a voluntary amendment to bring the pending claims in better form for examination, which is done with the present submission.

Finally, Applicants were advised that in the absence of convincing evidence of *in vivo* efficacy is needed in order to overcome the enablement rejection raised in the Office Action mailed on January 15, 2004. Since the claims not recite an *in vitro* method, this point is believed to be moot.

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All claims pending in this application are believed to be in *prima facie* condition for allowance, and an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 8, 2004

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